

Message Text

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42

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 /028 W
----- 128333

P R 251305Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2826

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL KARACHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 1740

DEPT FOR EUR/EX AND A/SY/FO; FRANKFURT FOR RSS/RTC/RMO
KARACHI FOR RCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, ABLD, ACOM, AFSP

SUBJECT: TERRORISM: PLANS FOR INCREASED PHYSICAL/PROTECTIVE
SECURITY

REF: (A) ATHENS 0756 (B) STATE 12900
(C) ATHENS 1248

SUMMARY:

EMBOFFS, IN CALLS AT MFA ON FEBRUARY 20 AND 23, DISCUSSED
POSSIBILITY OF JOINTLY-MANNED MOBILE PATROL PROPOSAL
DESCRIBED REFTELS A AND C. DURING BOTH CALLS GOG
OFFICIALS DISCLAIMED KNOWLEDGE OF GOG SECURITY OFFICIALS'
PLANS TO REDUCE CURRENT LEVEL OF SECURITY PROTECTION.
END SUMMARY.

1. ON FEBRUARY 20, EMB POLITICAL OFFICER CALLED ON MFA
AMERICAN DESK OFFICER MANOLATOS TO REVIEW FUTURE
STATUS OF SECURITY MEASURES NOW BEING PROVIDED BY
GOG FOR CERTAIN U.S. OFFICIALS. MANOLATOS REFERRED
EMBOFF TO MFA CHIEF OF PROTOCOL (AMBASSADOR VASSILIKOS)
WHOSE OFFICE, ACCORDING TO MANOLATOS, HAD WORKED
CLOSELY WITH EMBASSY IN SETTING UP SPECIAL SECURITY
PRECAUTIONS FOLLOWING WELCH MURDER.

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2. ON FEBRUARY 23, SAME EMBOFF PLUS ADMIN COUNSELOR

CALLED ON CHIEF OF PROTOCOL WHO STATED THAT MFA NOT AWARE OF POSSIBLE OR PLANNED REDUCTION IN CURRENTLY GOG-PROVIDED SECURITY MEASURES. AMBASSADOR VASSILIKOS TOOK PAINS TO REITERATE GOG'S ACCEPTANCE OF HOST COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT FOREIGN DIPLOMATS SERVING IN GREECE. HE ACCEPTED PROFFERED AIDE-MEMOIRE WHICH OUTLINED PROPOSAL FOR JOINTLY-MANNED MOBILE PATROL, PROMISED TO LOOK INTO MATTER FURTHER AND TO ADVISE EMBASSY OF MFA EVENTUAL DECISION. HE LEFT EMBOFFS WITH CLEAR INITIAL IMPRESSION THAT HE DID NOT REPEAT NOT FAVOR REDUCTION OF CURRENT LEVEL OF SECURITY AFFORDED BY GOG FOR U.S. PERSONNEL OR PROPERTY.

3. WHILE EMBOFFS WERE CONFERRING WITH VASSILIKOS, EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM GREEK GENDARMERIE OFFICER SUGGESTING THAT CURRENT 24-HOUR COVERAGE OF RESIDENCES BE REDUCED TO BETWEEN HOURS OF 1900 AND 0800. WE HAVE CONVEYED THIS DEVELOPMENT TO VASSILIKOS BY LETTER ON FEB 25, BECAUSE WE WERE UNABLE TO REACH HIM BY PHONE.

4. WILL ADVISE SOONEST WHETHER OUR REQUEST TO HIRE TEN ADDITIONAL WARDENS (ATHENS 973) CAN BE REDUCED, DEPENDING ON WHETHER VASSILIKOS' REACTIONS WERE PERSONAL OR WHETHER THEY REPRESENTED MFA POSITION. WE ARE CONTINUING EFFORTS AT CLARIFICATION OF THIS VITAL POINT AND WILL ADVISE DEPARTMENT.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS01740
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760070-0820
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760216/aaaaanqy.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ATHENS 756, 76 STATE 12900
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <18 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERRORISM: PLANS FOR INCREASED PHYSICAL/PROTECTIVE SECURITY
TAGS: ASEC, ABLD, ACOM, AFSP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006